

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 INRE-00

SCSE-00 L-03 H-03 DRC-01 /065 W

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O 251640Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4029

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 3685

FOR EB/OA AND CAB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, NL

SUBJECT: STRANDEES AT SCHIPHOL AIRPORT; MALCA TOURS AND
EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL SERVICE

1. ABOUT 100 AMERICAN PASSENGERS WERE REFUSED PASSAGE TO NEW YORK JULY 25 BY TRANSAVIA AT SCHIPHOL. PASSENGERS OBTAINED TICKETS AS STUDENTS UNDER AN ARRANGEMENT MADE BY MALCA TOURS, 2810 FRANKEL BLVD., MERRICK, NEW YORK AND EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL SERVICE (ETS), 501 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK. AT LEAST SOME TICKETS ALLEGEDLY BOUGHT FROM TRAVEL AGENTS IN EUROPE AND SOME PASSENGERS WERE APPARENTLY NOT STUDENTS. PASSAGE WAS REFUSED BECAUSE AIRLINE CONCLUDED THAT PASSENGERS DID NOT CONSTITUTE BONA FIDE AFFINITY GROUP AND CIVILAIR AUTHORITIES" AGREED WITH THIS CONCLUSION. (FLIGHT ON WHICH THEY WERE BOOKED WAS A SPLIT CHARTER OF AFFINITY GROUPS).

2. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ETS HAS TAKEN RESPONSIBILITY FOR THESE PASSENGERS AND HAS DEPOSITED \$10,000 WITH KLM IN NEWYORK TO COVER ONE-WAY PASSAGE OF 100 PASSENGERS, WITH INDICATION THAT \$5,000 MORE WILL BE FORTHCOMING. CIVILAIR HAS AUTHORIZED KLM TO CARRY THESE PASSENGERS ONE-WAY TO NEW YORK FOR EITHER \$100 OR \$150 EACH DEPENDING ON WHAT THEY ARE ABLE TO COLLECT FROM ETS. AT THIS WRITING PASSENGERS ARE BELIEVED TO BE
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BOARDING KLM FLIGHT 643 FOR IMMEDIATE DEPARTURE TO NEW YORK.

3. ETS CONTACT IN NEW YORK IS SAID TO BE ROBERT SEGELBAUL, OFFICE TELEPHONE 490-2244. LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE HERE IS RODNEY DREYER, APPARENTLY BRITISH NATIONALITY, AMCONGEN AMSTERDAM PERSONNEL WERE PRESENT AT AIRPORT DURING AFTERNOON AND FOLLOWED EVENTS CLOSELY. CIVILAIR AUTHORITIES APPARENTLY COLLECTED INFORMATION FROM PASSENGERS TO BE FORWARDED THROUGH EMBASSY TO CAB.

4. ACTION: CAB MAY WISH TO TAKE STEPS TO INTERVIEW SOME OR ALL OF THESE PASSENGERS ON ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK.
TANGUY

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